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## **UL-Monroe/Louisiana Delta Community College Sign Cooperative Agreement At Regents Meeting, Funds Distributed**

The Board of Regents today hosted a signing ceremony for a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the University of Louisiana at Monroe and Louisiana Delta Community College that will, among other important features, allow Delta to be housed on the ULM campus beginning with the current semester. The historic agreement is a pioneering example of how Louisiana's family of postsecondary institutions are working together to make the most of the state's educational facilities and resources.

"The ULM-Delta agreement is a perfect case in point of how Louisiana is using its educational infrastructure to accommodate the needs of our students," said Commissioner of Higher Education Joe Savoie. "This agreement reflects an efficient sharing of resources that will ultimately save the state money and serve the students of that region, as well."

"This agreement is a testament to the abilities of Dr. [James] Cofer [ULM President] and Dr. [Lynn] Kreider [LDCC President]," said Dr. Sally Clausen, President of the University of Louisiana System. "They saw that the state has very limited resources and that the students have very great needs. By sharing facilities and services, they are preserving scarce resources. I commend them for that."

Under the agreement, Delta will pay ULM \$25.00 per student per semester to occupy the former Coenen Cafeteria building and have access to a ULM scientific laboratory facility. In return, Delta students will share ULM services such as access to the library, student recreational facilities and cafeterias. Other salient points of the agreement provide that Delta will provide an additional librarian for the ULM library, and Delta's academic calendar and schedule will be adapted to conform to that of ULM.

Another important feature of the agreement provides that the two institutions develop a cross-enrollment process that will "streamline the admissions process."

"This agreement helps provide a seamless educational opportunity for students in our region," said Dr. James Cofer, "Actually, working out the agreement was easier then it might

## **ULM/LDCC Agreement**

### **ADD ONE**

have been because our institutions have a common mission. This relationship helps ensure that our students are ready either to go to college or enter the world of work.”

“This agreement is a model for the rest of the state to follow. It’s a wonderful opportunity for Delta and our entire region,” said Dr. Lynn Kreider. “Our region has not had a community college in the past. For the past two years we’ve been educating the community about the role of the community college relative to those of the technical college and the four-year university. We’re showing students that they can succeed. This association with ULM will allow students in our region to improve their job skills or prepare them to go on to receive a bachelor’s degree -- or even a master’s degree.”

Enrollment at Louisiana Delta Community College for the Fall 2002-03 semester was 280. Enrollment at the University of Louisiana at Monroe was 6,830 for Fall 2002-03.

In other action, the Board approved the distribution of state appropriations for Louisiana’s community and technical colleges and academic centers, library and scientific equipment, and performance and quality improvement efforts at campuses throughout the state.

“These funds which the legislature has provided are critical to moving our postsecondary institutions forward and achieving the goals established in Louisiana’s Master Plan for Public Postsecondary Education,” said Commissioner of Higher Education Joe Savoie.

Five million dollars was provided by the legislature for the continued growth and development of the state’s community and technical colleges and academic centers.

The library and scientific equipment funding (\$15 million) was appropriated in the Capital Outlay bill to continue support of campus needs in these critical areas. A campus-specific breakdown of the funds is attached. The performance and quality improvement funds total \$5.25 million and will be awarded to institutions by the system management boards.